

2nd Satellite Navigation User Forum Highlights

April 6, 1999

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) enlists users and other stakeholders in the planning for transition to satellite navigation services.

Background

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) revealed its plan for developing a Business Case for transition to a totally satellite-based navigation (SatNav) infrastructure. At the direction of FAA senior management, an Investment Analysis Team (IAT) was tasked in October 1998 to recommend a SatNav architecture and a funding profile for FAA-provided navigation services. The architecture and funding profile will be presented to FAA senior management at the Joint Resources Council in the form of a Satellite Navigation Business Case for an investment decision approval.

Summary

The 2nd SatNav User Forum began with a welcome and opening statement from Dr. Robert Rovinsky, the SatNav IAT Lead. He then reviewed the agenda and followed with an introduction of Mr. Jim Chadwick of The MITRE Corporation. Mr. Chadwick thanked all attendees for their participation in this effort and then introduced Mr. Kelly Markin of The MITRE Corporation's Center for Advanced Aviation System Development (CAASD). Mr. Markin presented navigation alternatives and technical analysis results. His approach also covered objectives of the performance assessments and their results; a review of and changes to the alternatives; refinements of the alternatives including the next level of detail; performance assessment results; and recommendations for the cost and benefits analyses.

The economic analysis was presented by the respective team leads: Anne Yablonski – Cost Estimating Plan; Diana Liang – Benefits Assessment Plan; Robert Fenton – Risk Methodology; and Mark Kipperman – Decision Criteria. After these presentations, a discussion on the economic aspects of this investment analysis ensued.

The meeting also captured key guidelines and assumptions, approach to developing alternatives, description of navigation modules, description of alternatives, analysis approach, IAT preliminary findings, and which alternatives deserved further economic analysis and review.

Conclusion

The forum ended with a question and answer session. Participants agreed that they would welcome a 3rd and final users forum to be held in July 1999. This forum will serve to further engage the user community, provide a plan for the users and industry to help validate costs, benefits, and risk for the selected business case, provide an update on the investment analysis (scope, schedule, work remaining, and progress), and provide an opportunity to review the candidate alternatives. For more information, please contact Ms. Millie Butler-Harris at (202)

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